

Nutrition Coordinating Committee (NCC) Meeting Minutes March 2, 2000

WELCOME

Dr. Van S. Hubbard welcomed all attendees and called the meeting to order. By conference video, CDC was represented by Dr. Mary Serdula and later Ms. Sarah Kuester, and NIEHS was represented by Dr. Carol Shreffler. Dr. Hubbard introduced the newly appointed DNRC Deputy Director, Dr. Pamela Starke-Reed. Dr. Hubbard noted that the NIDDK Extramural Activities Program will move to Democracy 2 in late March and that DNRC will remain in Rockledge 1 for another year. The minutes of the December 2, 1999, NCC meeting were approved.

UPDATE OF DNRC ACTIVITIES

DIETARY GUIDANCE

Dr. Pennington reported that eighteen nutrition education documents were reviewed in 1999. Six documents have been reviewed during the first two months of 2000. These six are: WIN/NIDDK: Statistics Related to Overweight and Obesity Fact Sheet; NHLBI: Strengthening the Heart Beat in American Indians and Alaska Native Communities; USDA: Recipes and Tips for Healthy, Thrifty Meals; USDA: The Interactive Healthy Eating Index; DHHS: 2000 Dietary Guidelines for Americans; and NICHD: Understanding Gestational Diabetes. Dr. Pennington also reported that Dr. Susan Krebs-Smith, NCI, is a new member of the Nutrition Education Subcommittee.

NATIONAL NUTRITION MONTH

Dr. Pennington said that the schedule of events for National Nutrition Month on the [DNRC Website](#) was also distributed via global email and written up in the NIH Record the week of February 22. Nutrition Month desk-to-desk flyers will be available in IC mailrooms March 2-3, 2000.

HNRIM

Mr. Jim Krebs-Smith reported that the memo requesting NIH FY 1999 data was sent out February 24, and requested IC submissions by March 10, if possible. Because testing of new HNRIM update modules is occurring in conjunction with

this year's data collection, some flexibility on the requested due date may be necessary. Mr. Krebs-Smith thanked testing participants, who will update their data either through the controlled-access website, or electronically using a new HNRIM data file format. Because the system is under development, he encouraged continued feedback and suggestions for improvement. Those not participating in testing were asked to prepare and submit data as they have in previous years. The implementation of two new nutrition codes ("Dietary Supplements: Nutrient Ingredients" and "Dietary Supplements: Botanical and Other Non-Nutrient Ingredients") was also highlighted. ICs were asked to carefully review their research portfolios for relevant projects. Dietary supplement-related projects will be shared with the NIH Office of Dietary Supplements for the CARDS database (Computer Access to Research on Dietary Supplements).

EIGHTEENTH REPORT ON NIH NUTRITION RESEARCH AND TRAINING

Dr. Cummings reported on her efforts to produce a comprehensive list of research articles published since the 17th Report. She has abstracted articles and made an alphabetical listing of topics, interdigitated so that related subjects can be discussed together. As soon as the IC reports have been inserted under the appropriate topic, the draft will be circulated (temporarily including institute names, which will not be included in the final report).

NATIONAL NUTRITION SUMMIT [NNS] (May 30-31, 2000)

Sarah Kuester, CDC, provided a summary of the status of the National Nutrition Summit (NNS), for which CDC has developed an Obesity Forum as a web-based discussion format. Persons who wish to subscribe to the Nutrition Summit/Obesity Forum may do so by sending their name, agency, and e-mail address to Sarah Kuester (sak2@cdc.gov). Comments can be sent to Dr. William Dietz (wcd4@cdc.gov), Dave Ramsey (dcr1@cdc.gov), or Sarah Kuester (sak2@cdc.gov). Dr. William Dietz, CDC, chairs the subcommittee responsible for planning the obesity section of the NNS. This web-based forum provides interested organizations with a means to submit comments and suggestions. Comments on this website are posted for the perusal of the 125 subscribing organizations and agencies. Further, a planning team of approximately twenty representatives of federal agencies and non-federal organizations has been created to draft presentations, breakout panel discussions, and reports related to obesity for the NNS. The first meeting of this team will be held March 6, 2000. Key points of the discussion included: President Clinton's revived interest in the Summit; comments and questions about the relationship between food security and obesity; the connection of the NNS to the Dietary Guidelines for Americans; and the overlap of environment and behavioral issues related to these topics.

SUMMIT ON PROMOTING HEALTHY EATING AND ACTIVE LIVING (April 25-26, 2000)

Ms. Karen Donato, NHLBI, reported that three working groups have been working with the Partnership to Promote Healthy Eating and Active Living to plan this Summit. The logistics for the Summit have been supported by Proctor and Gamble through interactions with Tufts University and Porter/Novelli. Other "partnerships" for the purpose of supporting the Summit have been established among a number of organizations, corporations, and medical and nutritional societies. The three working groups will look at issues of behavior, environmental and social concerns, and education that effect individuals' decisions related to food and activity choices. About 200 invitees (scientists, anthropologists, and behavioral scientists) will attend. Governmental liaisons include Dr. Eileen Kennedy, USDA, and Dr. William Dietz, CDC. It was noted that other organizations, including the Federal Trade Commission, International Life Sciences Institute, Knoll Pharmaceuticals, and Hoffman LaRoche, have also been active in bringing groups together to address issues related to obesity.

HEALTHY PEOPLE 2010

Dr. Hubbard reported that Healthy People 2010 (HP 2010) was officially launched at the end of January, 2000. It is hoped that this national public health initiative will lead to increased understanding of and improvement in health. A Conference Edition of Volumes I and II provides the background, leading health indicators, and the individual chapters, and is currently available in both hard copy and CD-ROM. The CD-ROM version will be sent to all HP 2010 Nutrition and Overweight Work Group members and representatives to the NIH NCC, who will also receive a copy of the smaller hard copy publication containing the leading health indicators. Some federal, as well as non-federal, organizations will prepare companion documents. This material will attempt to aggregate objectives and text from various chapters within HP 2010 related to common themes. The Nutrition and Overweight Work Group has not initiated efforts for a companion document. They are willing to work with other groups or organizations on such an effort, but feel that the effort should be directed by a "user" organization. Volume III of the HP 2010 publication, which will contain operational definitions, is expected to be released late this year.

DIETARY GUIDELINES FOR AMERICANS

Ms. Kathryn McMurry solicited comments on the new guidelines, which include physical activity and safe food handling, as well as the groupings of the ten guidelines. Dr. Pennington reported that the guidelines were received for review by email February 15, 2000, and were circulated to NES and NCC members for comment with a deadline of March 3, 2000. A February 24 meeting was held to address NIH concerns, such as body weight, sugar, food safety guidelines and authoritative statements. The DNRC will compile and summarize NIH comments

of the proposed 2000 Dietary Guidelines, which will be forwarded for the Acting Directors signature. These comments will include: policy issues, substantive, science-based issues, and editorial comments. At the request of the Sugar Association, NIH representatives met with their representatives on February 22, 2000, to hear the Association's concerns about the sugar guidelines.

DIETARY REFERENCE INTAKE

Dr. Hubbard reported that a new panel had been appointed by the Food and Nutrition Board, National Academy of Sciences, to develop dietary reference intakes for macronutrients. Public health issues for varying levels and sources of macronutrients in the diet will be included within their deliberations. Examples of issues include but are not limited to the following: Is there an upper limit to protein intake as a component of the diet? Are there different considerations concerning plant versus animal protein? Are there specific benefits or adverse effects of a low versus high carbohydrate diet? Is there a functional difference with the proportion of carbohydrate derived from simple versus complex forms? What are the absolute and relative levels of the different subclasses of fat to be included within the diet? Are specific fatty acids critical? What is the relationship of energy expenditure and energy balance to the recommendation of macronutrient intakes? The panel will have about 22 members who will serve for 18 months to 2 years. Dr. Elizabeth Castro, ODPHP/OPHS, will serve as the Project Officer.

USDA GREAT NUTRITION DEBATE

Dan Glickman, Secretary of Agriculture, and Shirley Watkins spearheaded this "Great Nutrition Debate," a national forum which included seven panelists. The panelists included five authors of diet books: Dr. Robert Atkins, Dr. Atkins New Diet Revolution; Dr. Barry Sears, The Zone; Dr. Morrison Bethea, Sugar Busters; Dr. John McDougall, Dr. McDougall's Right Foods; and Dr. Dean Ornish, Eat More, Weigh Less; as well as Dr. Keith-Thomas Ayoob, American Dietetic Association, and Dr. Denise Bruner, President of the American Society of Bariatric Physicians.

STATUS OF DOUBLY-LABELED WATER

Dr. Hubbard reported on preliminary developments identifying potential sources for preparing the O-18 stable isotope used in doubly-labeled water for energy expenditure studies. Industry is evaluating increasing their capacity to make this isotope; however, there would likely be a significant time lag before the material became available to the investigator. Discussions are proceeding with the staff from NCRP to determine if one of their resource centers might be able to produce some of the isotope to reduce the shortage along a significantly shorter time line. All federal staff with a special interest in this issue are encouraged to contact the DNRC office.

REPORTS FROM NCC MEMBERS AND LIAISONS

The Agricultural Research Service (ARS) of the United States Department of Agriculture will hold a Human Nutrition Workshop. Attendance will be limited to 120 invited representatives of industry, trade, commodity and federal groups. The workshop will address the needs of the ARS. On the first day, there will be presentations on needs, on the second, breakout sessions, and on the third day, ARS representatives will meet to produce an action plan.

FUTURE MEETING DATES

Dr. Hubbard said that meetings will continue to be held on the first Thursday of the month, but the meetings may be cancelled if there is insufficient material for a full agenda.

The agenda and list of attendees of the March 2, 2000 NIH NCC meeting immediately follow these minutes.